

House Resolution 6 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY A. MEYER

1 A Resolution designating the month of March, annually,
2 as Precision Medicine and Biomarker Testing
3 Awareness Month.

4 WHEREAS, precision medicine, which is also called
5 personalized health care or individualized medicine, is
6 an evolving field in which health care providers use an
7 analysis of a patient's biospecimen, known as biomarker
8 testing, to determine which medical treatments will
9 work best for each patient; and

10 WHEREAS, by combining the data from biomarker
11 testing with an individual's medical history,
12 circumstances, and values, health care providers can
13 direct a patient to targeted treatment, which benefits
14 both patients and the overall health care system; and

15 WHEREAS, the field of precision medicine holds great
16 promise in ensuring the delivery of the right treatment
17 to the right patient at the right time; and

18 WHEREAS, 60 percent of treatments in preclinical
19 development rely on biomarker data; and

20 WHEREAS, biomedicine and the understanding of the
21 characteristics of a patient's disease that informs
22 precision medicine is evolving rapidly; and

23 WHEREAS, health care providers are increasingly
24 gaining access to new technologies, such as biomarker
25 testing, that can help identify gene mutations,
26 alterations, and protein expressions specific to
27 individual patients; and

28 WHEREAS, health outcomes are improved through the

1 use of precision medicine, including, for example,
2 patients with certain types of lung cancer who received
3 biomarker testing resulting in a 28 percent reduction
4 in mortality; and

5 WHEREAS, the National Academy of Medicine considers
6 biomarker testing to be key to unlocking the promise of
7 personalized health care; and

8 WHEREAS, biomarker testing is available for an
9 ever-increasing range of conditions and diseases, but
10 patient access to these tests is not keeping pace with
11 the rate of innovation; and

12 WHEREAS, a lack of awareness among providers
13 and patients is preventing the effective adoption
14 and integration of biomarker testing into precision
15 medicine; and

16 WHEREAS, appropriate awareness and education about
17 the ways biomarker testing can be used to support the
18 diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of patients in a
19 personalized way is needed; and

20 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society/Cancer Action
21 Network and the Iowa Biotechnology Association, as well
22 as other relevant partners, are seeking to promote
23 awareness, education, and action related to improving
24 access to biomarker testing; NOW THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
26 the Iowa House of Representatives designates the month
27 of March, annually, as Precision Medicine and Biomarker
28 Testing Awareness Month to raise awareness, encourage
29 education, and improve understanding of the ways
30 biomarker testing can be used to support diagnosis,

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1 treatment, and monitoring of patients in a personalized
2 way and to emphasize the importance of ensuring access
3 to these promising technologies.